

Kiwanis Lodge
3200 Old River Road
Camp Roganunda, Wenatchee National Forest
NACHES VICINITY
Yakima County
Washington

HABS No. WA-196

HABS
WASH
39-NACH.V,
5-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Western Region
Department of Interior
San Francisco, California 94102

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS
WASH
39-NACHV,
5-

KIWANIS LODGE ~~(CAMP ROGANUNDA)~~

HABS No. WA-196

Location: Thirty-seven miles west of Yakima, WA, via Washington State Highway No. 410 and Wenatchee National Forest Road No. 1704, on land leased from the U. S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service.

Legal Description: T. 17 N, R.14 E Section 22, NW 1/4 of NW 1/4, Yakima County, Washington

Universal Transverse Mercator: Zone 10, Easting 645927.5 Northing 5201524.0

Present Owner: Yakima Valley Council of Camp Fire

Present Occupants: Seasonal use by Camp Roganunda campers

Present Use: Resident camp lodge

Statement of
Significance:

Kiwanis Lodge is a log structure constructed from local materials and representing a distinctive method of construction. The uneven ends of the wall logs are unique in this area. Kiwanis Lodge retains integrity of location, use, design, materials and workmanship, with tool and scribe marks still evident on the structure which may yield important construction information.

Kiwanis Lodge is part of Yakima Valley Council of Camp Fire's Camp Roganunda. This camp is one of the first organizations to take advantage of forest recreation opportunities offered by the Forest Service in the 1920's. It has been in continual use by the same permittee since it was started in 1923. It is recognized by the American Camping Association as one of the oldest organization camps in the country.

PART I. PHYSICAL SETTING OF KIWANIS LODGE

Kiwanis Lodge is a part of Camp Roganunda, a resident camp owned and operated by Yakima Valley Council of Camp Fire. The camp is on land leased to the Council by the U. S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger District.

Kiwanis Lodge is located near the western edge of Camp Roganunda permit area. The front facade faces southeast. The lodge is situated on a slight (10%) east slope of clay and humus. Surrounding vegetation is douglas fir, grand fir and ponderosa pine with an understory of young vine maples and native shrubs.

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF KIWANIS LODGE

Kiwanis Lodge is a square, 2 story horizontal log and frame structure measuring 36'6" (11m 12cm) by 36'4" (11m 9cm), including the porch. The height to the ridgepole is estimated at approximately 35 feet. Four main walls are constructed of twenty-four logs each, including sill or spandrel logs. Diameters of the logs vary. The joint style is round or saddle notch, with some logs notched on both the upper and lower surfaces, and some notched only on the upper surface. This variation appears dependent on log size. Gable ends are completed with interior nailed frame and exterior shake siding. The wall log ends are staggered, creating an uneven line at the building corners. The second story loft floor joist log ends extend beyond the wall logs and add to the roof support over the front porch. The chinking material appears to be mortar. The entire structure rests on a stone foundation. The northeast gable facade has a break in the foundation, granting access to a crawlspace beneath the lodge.

The front porch or veranda is approximately 8 feet deep and crosses the entire southeast facade. Five horizontal logs form the walls supporting the porch; the round notched ends lack the distinctive staggered lengths of the main walls of the building. Porch decking is nailed boards, 2" x 12", running parallel to the front of the lodge. Rafter supports are plain vertical logs, resting on the decking directly on top of floor joists. The railing is constructed of a plain log notched into rafter support poles at approximately 35" height. Angled supports between horizontal logs and decking complete the railing. The railing extends around all sides of the porch except at the entry stairs.

The stairs enter the front porch at the center of the porch. The entrance is 11'4" wide. The stairs extend 19 feet out from the front of the porch. Twelve steps of 16" x 2" tread divided into two runs by a log railing rising in the center, create the entry. A landing of 12" x 2" decking exists seven steps from the base of the stairs.

The roof is a high plain gable of composite shingles. At the eaves there are projecting 2" by 48" exposed rafters. The eaves are projecting and plain. There are two chimneys projecting from the roof ridge. One comes from the kitchen at the southwest end of the building, and one from the fireplace at the northeast end. They are single brick stack. The roof continues in a "catslide" style over the porch.

Three doors provide entry to the lodge. The front door is roughly in the center of the main facade. The door design is a rustic "Z" style. It is covered by a wooden screen door. A side door enters the southwest gable facade, off-center to the south. This door is also the rustic "Z" style. A small porch provides access to this entry. The side porch is approximately 5 feet wide and 8 feet long with 2" x 10" decking. The decking runs perpendicular to the southwest facade. The entire porch rests on concrete pads. A concrete step exists at the northwest end (entry) of the porch. A plain log railing, similar to the front porch railing but missing the angular supports, follows the southeast and southwest edges of the porch.

A single hollow-core plywood door allows entry to the rear, northwest side, of the building. The approach to this entry is a level bridge, 3'6" (1m 25cm) wide and 14 feet (4m 26cm) in length. The bridge is constructed of pressure-treated 2" x 4" boards and rests on the ground at the hillside entry end and on brick pads where it attaches to the lodge. The entry bridge includes a railing of similar style to the front porch railing but constructed from milled lumber. The bridge connects the building to an adjacent slope.

There are two windows on the front, southeast, facade; one on each side of the front entry. Both are flat sash windows with side lights and plain trim. Both have wooden storm windows on the sidelights. There are four windows on the northeast side of the building, two upper and two lower. The upper windows are flat, single sash with plain trim. A wooden storm window covers the upper window on the north. The lower windows are flat, 2-sash without mullion. The lower window on the east end is covered with a wooden storm window.

There are five windows in the southwest facade; there are two upper windows and three lower windows. The two upper windows are flat, single-sash, with plain trim. Wooden storm windows cover both upper windows. All lower windows are located northwest of the side entry. Two flat single-sash windows with plain trim and covered by wooden storm windows are positioned on either side of a flat, 2-sash plain trim window covered by a similar storm window.

Two windows are located on the northwest (rear) facade, one on either side of the rear entry. The northeast window is flat, 3-sash, with mullions and plain trim. One wooden storm window covers the west

sash of this window. The southwest window is a flat, 2-sash with mullions with plain trim and no storm windows.

All windows, casements, trim and storm windows are painted a light, pale green. Two yellow/green corrugated fiberglass panels cover areas where siding has been removed in both gable ends. These panels are approximately 4' x 8'.

In addition, a wooden ladder is attached to the exterior of the lodge in each of the gable ends, running vertically from the upper windows to midway in the building. These ladders provide emergency exits from the second story lofts.

Three iron straps have been added to the lodge exterior both on the northwest and southeast sides of the building and under the eaves of the front porch. Three iron rods pass through the lodge, one attached to each iron strap. This was an attempt in the 1960's to halt stress to the building caused by a heavy snow load.

The interior of the lodge is comprised of one main room, a walled-off kitchen at the southwest end of the building, with access through a door, and two sleeping lofts of equal size on either side of the building. The southwest loft is above the kitchen.

Access to the lofts is by one stairway to each loft from a common landing at the northwest side of the building. Five steps lead from the ground floor to the common landing which is also access to the rear door leading to the bridge which connects the building to an adjacent slope. Each flight of stairs leading to a loft is built against the back wall, open on one side and protected with pole bannisters. The lofts are open to the main lodge room, with pole railings protecting the open side. Each of the two chimneys rises through its respective loft at the junction of wall and loft.

PART III. HISTORICAL CONTEXT - - Development of Camp Roganunda and Camp Fire

Kiwanis Lodge is part of the Yakima Valley Council of Camp Fire's resident camp, Camp Roganunda. Camp Roganunda's history is directly associated with the national origin and development of youth groups. Camp Fire Girls, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts all had their beginning in the United States in the three year period of 1908 to 1911. Camp Fire, originating in 1910 in New York, was established in the Yakima Valley in 1913 and has been a continuously active organization in Yakima County since then. Camping was an early, integral part of the Camp Fire program as it sought to give girls the same opportunities for independence and outdoor living skills as boys. Yakima Valley Council of Camp Fire started an early camping program along the Naches River at temporary sites. In the 1920's it was one of the first organizations to take advantage of forest recreation

opportunities offered by the Forest Service. it was established on its present site in 1923 and has remained a Forest Service permittee on this site ever since. Camp Roganunda is recognized by the American Camping Association as one of the oldest organization camps in the country.

Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas has been identified as having assisted in the development of Camp Roganunda. Mr. Douglas is an important local and national figure as Supreme Court justice and strong proponent of wilderness.

From the beginning, Camp Fire has had a partnership in the maintenance of Camp Roganunda with Yakima Kiwanis Club. The club's considerable financial support in the building of this log lodge resulted in the naming of the building, Kiwanis Lodge.

Although there were earlier camp buildings on the site, this is the only building which has been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The other primary building has undergone several renovations which substantially changed its original design and appearance. Kiwanis Lodge is the only log building in the camp.

The idea for the building originated with the Camp Fire board of directors in 1934 and 1935, according to the board minutes. The members of the board were concerned about having a facility at the camp specifically for the camping experience of the older, teenage, Camp Fire girls. The minutes reflect that the original design of the building was as a pole/log building. Logs from the forest, with the approval of the Forest Service, were harvested to create the building. Finances were always an issue in those depression years in the construction of the lodge, and when volunteer and contracted labor had brought the building to a height of nine logs, \$125.00 of the accumulated funds had already been expended.

N. I. Bridgeford, a member of the Camp Fire Girls Council board of directors from the time of the council's incorporation in Yakima in 1928 through the building of Kiwanis Lodge, was a key promoter and facilitator in bringing the project from conception to fruition.

The actual construction of the lodge was started in the spring of 1936 and continued through the summer, with logs being carefully stored against winter damage. Two men had been brought from the state of Oregon to work "at no more than \$3.00 a day" during the summer of 1936. They were recommended as men who "knew how to build this kind of log building." In March 1937 project managers of the construction requested the Naches Ranger District to recommend "a man accustomed to building log cabins" to complete the Camp Fire Girls lodge. R. A. (Chuck) Hammond, a builder in the Goose Prairie area, about twenty miles northwest of Camp Roganunda, was recommended.

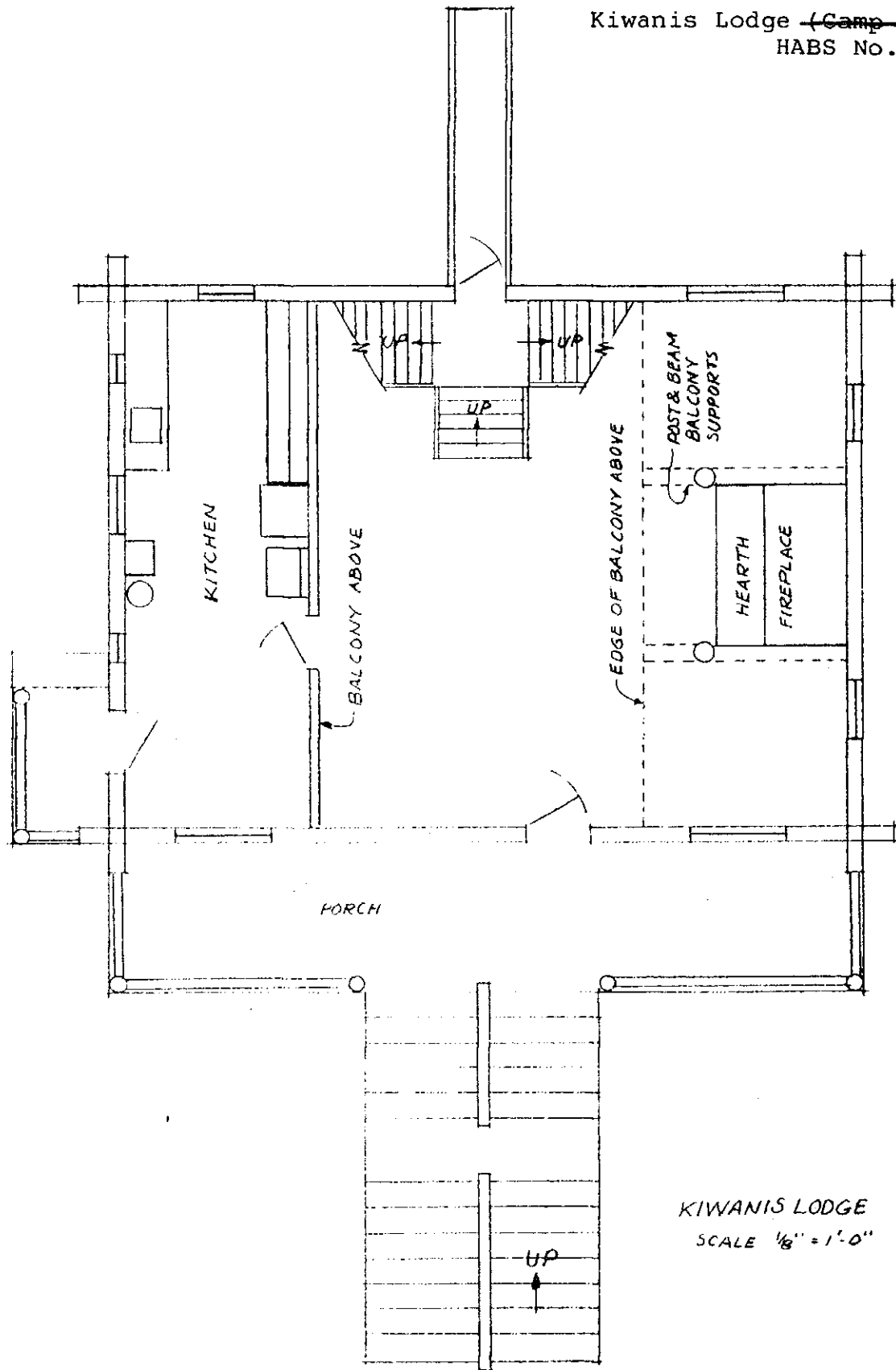
In August, 1937, the Kiwanis Lodge was formally dedicated. In December 1937 there was evidence that the lodge was slipping. The clay base on which it stood was not absorbing runoff water from the hillside. The Civilian Conservation Corps, which was located several miles away, was recruited to trench around the building and prepare a proper drainage system to keep the rain and snow runoff water away from the building.

SOURCES: Camp Roganunda, Kiwanis Lodge Request for
 Determination of Eligibility Property Description.
 Richard W. Martinson, U. S. Forest Service, Wenatchee
 National Forest, Naches Ranger District, July, 1991.

 Minutes of Board of Directors' meetings, Yakima Valley
 Council of Camp Fire, 1928 - present.

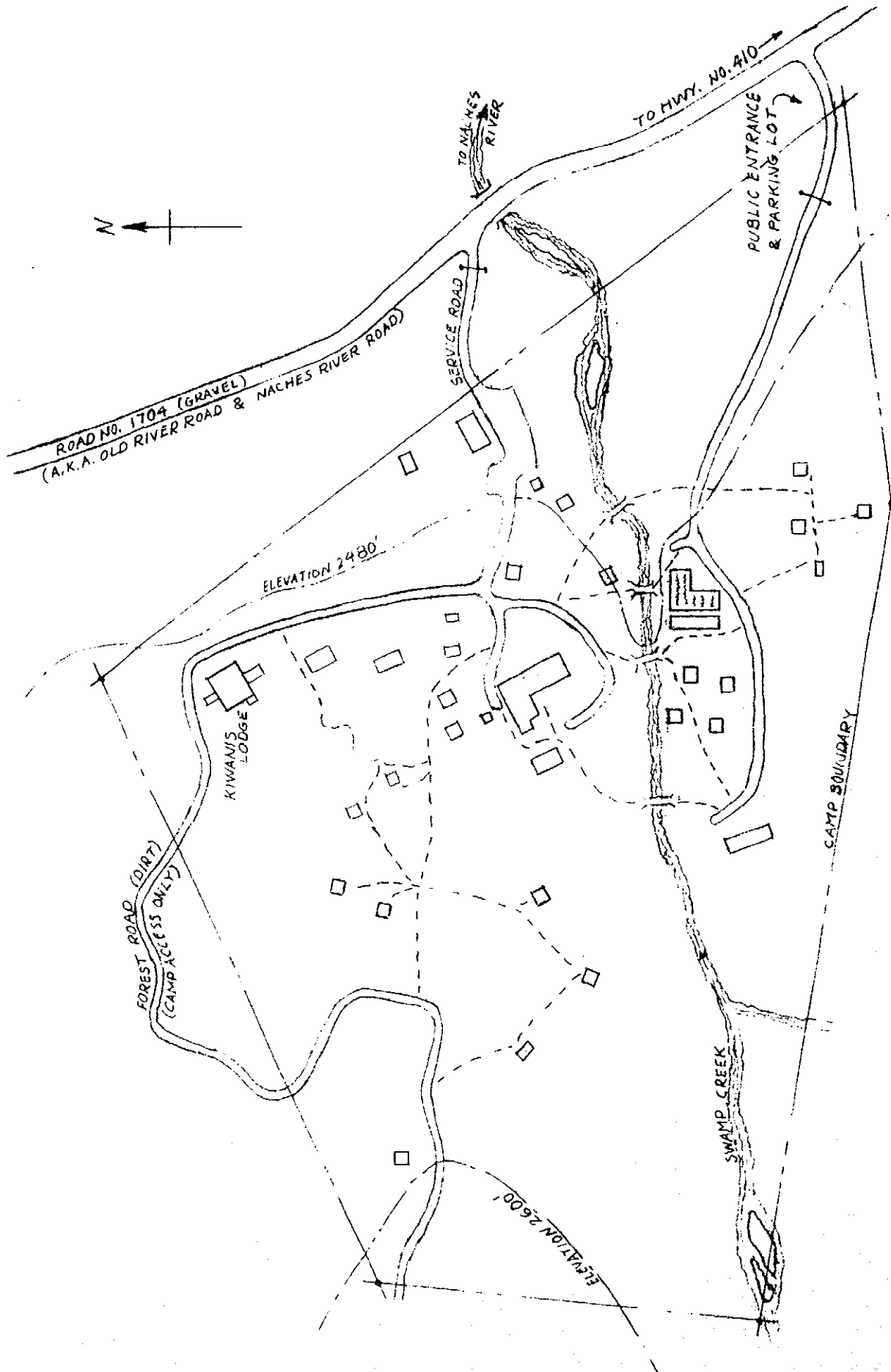
HISTORIANS: William B. Jenkins, 1991 President, Yakima Valley
 Council of Camp Fire
 Joyce G. Dennison, Executive Director, Yakima Valley
 Council of Camp Fire

Kiwanis Lodge (~~Camp Roganunda~~)
HABS No. WA-196-7



KIWANIS LODGE
SCALE $\frac{1}{8}" = 1'-0"$

Kiwanis Lodge (~~Camp Roganunda~~)
HABS No. WA-196-8



CAMP ROGANUNDA

1" = 150'